

are observed to be more advanced in development than at other times, but not yet arrived at total maturity; third, eggs, which according to every probability belong to the Common El, are found in the sea from the month of August to that of January inclusive; fourth, the *Leptocephalus brevirostris* abounds from February to September. As to the other months, we are in some uncertainty, because during them our only natural fisherman, the *Orthogoriscus mola*, appears very rarely; fifth, I am inclined to believe that the elvers ascending our rivers are already one year old, and I have observed that in an aquarium specimens of *L. brevirostris* can transform themselves into young elvers in one month's time.

“Total Eclipse of the Sun, 1896.—The Novaya Zemlya Observations.” By Sir GEORGE BADEN-POWELL, K.C.M.G., M.P. Communicated by J. NORMAN LOCKYER, C.B., F.R.S. Received November 19,—Read November 19, 1896.

(Abstract.)

The author gives an account of the circumstances under which it became desirable to fit out an expedition to observe the eclipse in Novaya Zemlya, and the arrangements made to convey it by his yacht “Otaria.”

Details are given of the observing station, the erection of the different instruments, and the scheme of work.

The valuable spectroscopic results obtained are still under process of being worked out; but the coronagraph results are reported in detail, and copies of the chief photographs are appended. The meteorological and other conditions during the eclipse are duly recorded.

“Preliminary Report on the Results obtained with the Prismatic Camera during the Eclipse of 1896.” By J. NORMAN LOCKYER, C.B., F.R.S. Received November 17,—Read November 19, 1896.

(Abstract.)

The author first states the circumstances under which Sir George Baden-Powell, K.C.M.G., M.P., with great public spirit conveyed an eclipse party to Novaya Zemlya in his yacht “Otaria,” to which party was attached Mr. Shackleton, one of the computers employed by the Solar Physics Committee.

The prismatic camera employed, loaned from the Solar Physics

Observatory, was carefully adjusted before leaving England, and a programme of exposures was drawn up based upon the experience of 1893. As the station occupied lay at some distance from the central line, this programme was reduced by Mr. Shackleton.

Two of the photographs obtained are reproduced for the information of other workers, as some time must elapse before the discussion of all the results can be completed. This discussion and Mr. Shackleton's report on the local arrangements and details of work, are promised in a subsequent communication.

The lines photographed in the "flash" at the commencement of totality—happily caught by Mr. Shackleton—the wave-lengths of which lines have been measured by Dr. W. J. S. Lockyer, show interesting variations from those photographed by Mr. Fowler in the cusp during the eclipse of 1893.

With the exception of the lines visible in the spectra of hydrogen and helium, and the longest lines of many of the metallic elements, considerable differences of intensity from the lines of Fraunhofer are noticeable.

The coronal rings have been again photographed, and the results of 1893 have been confirmed.

November 26, 1896.

Sir JOSEPH LISTER, Bart., President, in the Chair.

Dr. George Murray and Professor Karl Pearson were admitted into the Society.

A List of the Presents received was laid on the table, and thanks ordered for them.

In pursuance of the Statutes, notice of the ensuing Anniversary Meeting was given from the Chair, and the list of Officers and Council nominated for election was read as follows:—

President.—Sir Joseph Lister, Bart., F.R.C.S., D.C.L.

Treasurer.—Sir John Evans, K.C.B., D.C.L., LL.D.

Secretaries.— $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Professor Michael Foster, M.A., M.D.} \\ \text{Professor Arthur William Rücker, M.A., D.Sc.} \end{array} \right.$

Foreign Secretary.—Edward Frankland, D.C.L., LL.D.

Other Members of the Council.—Professor William Grylls Adams, M.A.; Professor Thomas Clifford Allbutt, M.D.; Professor Robert